UNITED NATIONS

Convention to Combat Desertification

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STATUS OF RATIFICATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION

Note by the secretariat

1. The text of the Convention was adopted in Paris on 17 June 1994, at the Headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; it was opened for signature in Paris on 14 and 15 October 1994, and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters in New York until 13 October 1995. By that date, the Convention had received 115 signatures. The Convention entered into force on 26 December 1996. Those States which have not signed the Convention may accede to it at any time.

2. For any States ratifying, accepting or approving the Convention or acceding thereto after the date of entry into force, the Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit by such State of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

3. This document contains information concerning dates of signature and ratification received by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as Depositary, as at 5 October 2001.

4. The information is presented in two tables. All Parties to the Convention as at 5 October 2001 are listed in alphabetical order in table 1. The second table shows the general status of ratification of the Convention. The dates in the column on ratification are those of the receipt of the instrument of ratification or accession by the Depositary.

5. For the purpose of this document, all references to ratification include information on accession, acceptance and approval of the Convention.

GE.*0106515*

ENG

Table 1. Parties to the Convention*
(as at 5 October 2001)

1. Afghanistan
2. Albania
3. Algeria
4. Angola
5. Antigua and Barbuda
6. Argentina
7. Armenia
8. Australia
9. Austria
10. Azerbaijan
11. Bahamas
12. Bahrain
13. Bangladesh
14. Barbados
15. Belarus
16. Belgium
17. Belize
18. Benin
19. Bolivia
20. Botswana
21. Brazil
22. Bulgaria
23. Burkina Faso
24. Burundi
25. Cambodia
26. Cameroon
27. Canada
28. Cape Verde
29. Central African Republic
30. Chad
31. Chile
32. China
33. Colombia
34. Comoros
35. Congo
36. Cook Islands
37. Costa Rica
38. Côte d'Ivoire
39. Croatia
40. Cuba
41. Cyprus
42. Czech Republic
43. Democratic Republic of the Congo
44. Denmark
45. Djibouti
46. Dominica
47. Domisican Republic
48. Ecuador
49. Egypt
50. El Salvador
51. Equatorial Guinea
52. Eritrea
53. Ethiopia
54. European Community
55. Fiji
56. Finland
57. France
58. Gabon
59. Gambia
60. Georgia
61. Germany
62. Ghana
63. Greece
64. Grenada
65. Guatemala
66. Guinea
67. Guinea-Bissau
68. Guyana
69. Haiti
70. Honduras
71. Hungary
72. Iceland
73. India
74. Indonesia
75. Iran (Islamic Republic of)
76. Ireland
77. Israel
78. Italy
79. Jamaica
80. Japan
81. Jordan
82. Kazakhstan
83. Kenya
84. Kiribati
85. Kuwait
86. Kyrgyzstan
87. Lao People's Democratic Republic
88. Lebanon
89. Lesotho
90. Liberia
91. Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
92. Liechtenstein
93. Luxembourg
94. Madagascar
95. Malawi
96. Malaysia
97. Mali
98. Malta
99. Marshall Islands
100. Mauritania
101. Mauritius
102. Mexico
103. Micronesia (Federated States of)
104. Monaco
105. Mongolia
106. Morocco
107. Mozambique
108. Myanmar
109. Namibia
110. Nauru
111. Nepal
112. Netherlands
113. New Zealand
114. Nicaragua
115. Niger
116. Nigeria
117. Niue
118. Norway
119. Oman
120. Pakistan
121. Palau
122. Panama
123. Papua New Guinea
124. Paraguay
125. Peru
126. Philippines
127. Portugal
128. Qatar
129. Republic of Korea
130. Republic of Moldova
131. Romania
132. Rwanda
133. Saint Kitts and Nevis
134. Saint Lucia
135. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
136. Samoa
137. San Marino
138. Sao Tome and Principe
139. Saudi Arabia
140. Senegal
141. Seychelles
142. Sierra Leone
143. Singapore
144. Slovenia
145. Solomon Islands
146. South Africa
147. Spain
148. Sri Lanka
149. Sudan
150. Suriname
151. Swaziland
152. Sweden
153. Switzerland
154. Syrian Arab Republic
155. Tajikistan
156. Thailand
157. Togo
158. Tonga
159. Trinidad and Tobago
160. Tunisia
161. Turkey
162. Turkmenistan
163. Tuvalu
164. Uganda
165. United Arab Emirates
166. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
167. United Republic of Tanzania
168. United States of America
169. Uruguay
170. Uzbekistan
171. Vanuatu
172. Venezuela
173. Viet Nam
174. Yemen
175. Zambia
176. Zimbabwe

* Belarus has ratified the Convention but has not yet become Party to it (see table 2).

Table 2. Status of ratification
(R=Ratification, Ac=Accession, At=Acceptance)

Country	Signature	Ratification	Entry into force
1. Afghanistan		01/11/95(Ac)	26/12/96
2. Albania		27/04/00(Ac)	26/07/00
3. Algeria	14/10/94	22/05/96(R)	26/12/96
4. Angola	14/10/94	30/06/97(R)	28/09/97
5. Antigua and Barbuda	04/04/95	06/06/97(R)	04/09/97
6. Argentina	15/10/94	06/01/97(R)	06/04/97
7. Armenia	14/10/94	02/07/97(R)	30/09/97
8. Australia	14/10/94	15/05/00(R)	13/08/00
9. Austria		02/06/97(Ac)	31/08/97
10. Azerbaijan		10/08/98(Ac)	08/11/98
11. Bahamas		10/11/00(Ac)	08/02/01
12. Bahrain		14/07/97(Ac)	12/10/97
13. Bangladesh	14/10/94	26/01/96(R)	26/12/96
14. Barbados		14/05/97(Ac)	12/08/97
15. Belarus		29/08/01(Ac)	27/11/01
16. Belgium		30/06/97(Ac)	28/09/97
17. Belize		23/07/98(Ac)	21/10/98
18. Benin	14/10/94	29/08/96(R)	26/12/96
19. Bolivia	14/10/94	01/08/96(R)	26/12/96
20. Botswana	12/10/95	11/09/96(R)	26/12/96
21. Brazil	14/10/94	25/06/97(R)	23/09/97
22. Bulgaria		21/02/01(Ac)	22/05/01
23. Burkina Faso	14/10/94	26/01/96(R)	26/12/96
24. Burundi	14/10/94	06/01/97(R)	06/04/97
25. Cambodia	15/10/94	18/08/97(R)	16/11/97
26. Cameroon	14/10/94	29/05/97(R)	27/08/97
27. Canada	14/10/94	01/12/95(R)	26/12/96
28. Cape Verde	14/10/94	08/05/95(R)	26/12/96
29. Central African Republic	14/10/94	05/09/96(R)	26/12/96
30. Chad	14/10/94	27/09/96(R)	26/12/96
31. Chile	03/03/95	11/11/97(R)	09/01/98
32. China	14/10/94	18/02/97(R)	19/05/97
33. Colombia	14/10/94	08/06/99(R)	06/09/99
34. Comoros	14/10/94	03/03/98(R)	01/06/98
35. Congo	15/10/94	12/07/99(R)	11/10/99
36. Cook Islands		21/08/98(Ac)	19/11/98
37. Costa Rica	15/10/94	05/01/98(R)	05/04/98
38. Côte d'Ivoire	15/10/94	04/03/97(R)	02/06/97
39. Croatia	15/10/94	06/10/00(At)	04/01/01
40. Cuba	15/10/94	13/03/97(R)	11/06/97
41. Cyprus		29/03/00(Ac)	27/06/00
42. Czech Republic		25/01/00(Ac)	24/04/00
43. Democratic Republic of the Congo	14/10/94	12/09/97(R)	11/11/97
44. Denmark	15/10/94	22/12/95(R)	26/12/96

Country	Signature	Ratification	Entry into force
45. Djibouti	15/10/94	12/06/97(R)	10/08/97
46. Dominica		08/12/97(Ac)	08/03/98
47. Dominican Republic		26/06/97(Ac)	24/09/97
48. Ecuador	19/01/95	06/09/95(R)	26/12/96
49. Egypt	14/10/94	07/07/95(R)	26/12/96
50. El Salvador		27/06/97(Ac)	25/09/97
51. Equatorial Guinea	14/10/94	27/06/97(R)	25/09/97
52. Eritrea	14/10/94	14/08/96(R)	26/12/96
53. Ethiopia	15/10/94	27/06/97(R)	25/09/97
54. Fiji		26/08/98(Ac)	24/11/98
55. Finland	15/10/94	20/09/95(At)	26/12/96
56. France	14/10/94	12/06/97(R)	10/09/98
57. Gabon		06/09/96(Ac)	26/12/96
58. Gambia	14/10/94	11/06/96(R)	26/12/96
59. Georgia	15/10/94	23/07/99(R)	21/10/99
60. Germany	14/10/94	10/07/96(R)	26/12/96
61. Ghana	15/10/94	27/12/96(R)	27/03/97
62. Greece	14/10/94	05/05/97(R)	03/08/97
63. Grenada		28/05/97(Ac)	25/09/97
64. Guatemala		10/09/98(Ac)	09/12/98
65. Guinea	14/10/94	23/06/97(R)	21/09/97
66. Guinea-Bissau	15/10/94	27/10/95(R)	26/12/96
67. Guyana		26/06/97(Ac)	24/09/97
68. Haiti	15/10/94	25/09/96(R)	26/12/96
69. Honduras	22/02/95	25/06/97(R)	23/09/97
70. Hungary		13/07/99(Ac)	11/10/99
71. Iceland		03/06/97(Ac)	01/09/97
72. India	14/10/94	17/12/96(R)	17/03/97
73. Indonesia	15/10/94	31/08/98(R)	29/11/98
74. Iran (Islamic Republic of)	14/10/94	29/04/97(R)	28/07/97
75. Ireland	15/10/94	31/07/97(R)	29/10/97
76. Israel	14/10/94	26/03/96(R)	26/12/96
77. Italy	14/10/94	23/06/97(R)	21/09/97
78. Jamaica		12/11/97(Ac)	12/03/98
79. Japan	14/10/94	11/09/98(At)	10/12/98
80. Jordan	13/04/95	21/10/96(R)	19/01/97
81. Kazakhstan	14/10/94	09/07/97(R)	07/10/97
82. Kenya	14710/94	24/06/97(R)	22/09/97
83. Kiribati		08/09/98(Ac)	07/12/98
84. Kyrgyzstan		19/09/97(Ac)	18/12/97
85. Kuwait	22/09/95	27/06/97(R)	25/09/97
86. Lao People's Democratic Republic	30/08/95	20/09/96(At)	26/12/96
87. Lebanon	14/10/94	16/05/96(R)	26/12/96
88. Lesotho	15/10/94	12/09/95(R)	26/12/96
89. Liberia		02/03/98/Ac)	31/05/98

Country	Signature	Ratification	Entry into force
90. Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	15/10/94	22/07/96(R)	26/12/96
91. Liechtenstein		29/12/99(Ac)	28/03/00
92. Luxembourg	14/10/94	04/02/97(R)	05/05/97
93. Madagascar	14/10/94	25/06/97(R)	23/09/97
94. Malaysia	06/10/95	25/06/97(R)	23/09/97
95. Malawi	17/01/95	13/06/96(R)	26/12/96
96. Mali	15/10/94	31/10/95(R)	26/12/96
97. Malta	15/10/94	30/01/98(R)	30/04/98
98. Marshall Islands		02/06/98(Ac)	31/08/98
99. Mauritania	14/10/94	07/08/96(R)	26/12/96
100. Mauritius	17/03/95	23/01/96(R)	26/12/96
101. Mexico	15/10/94	03/04/95(R)	26/12/96
102. Micronesia (Federated States of)	12/12/94	25/03/96(R)	26/12/96
103. Monaco		05/03/99(Ac)	03/06/99
104. Mongolia	15/10/94	03/09/96(R)	26,12/96
105. Morocco	15/10/94	07/11/96(R)	06/02/97
106. Mozambique	28/09/95	13/03/97(R)	11/06/97
107. Myanmar		02/01/97(Ac)	02/04/97
108. Namibia	24/10/94	16/05/97(R)	14/08/97
109. Nauru		22/09/98(Ac)	21/12/98
110. Nepal	12/10/95	15/10/96(R)	13/01/97
111. Netherlands*	15/10/94	27/06/95(At)	26/12/96
112. New Zealand*		07/09/00(Ac)	06/12/00
113. Nicaragua	21/11/94	17/02/98(R)	18/05/98
114. Niger	14/10/94	19/01/96(R)	26/12/96
115. Nigeria	31/10/94	08/07/97(R)	06/10/97
116. Niue		14/08/98(Ac)	12/11/98
117. Norway	15/10/94	30/08/96(R)	26/12/96
118. Oman		23/07/96(Ac)	26/12/96
119. Pakistan	15/10/94	24/02/97(R)	25/05/97
120. Palau		15/06/99(Ac)	13/09/99
121. Panama	22/02/95	04/04/96(R)	26/12/96
122. Papua New Guinea		06/12/00(Ac)	06/03/01
123. Paraguay	01/12/94	15/01/97(R)	15/04/97
124. Peru	15/10/94	09/11/95(R)	26/12/96
125. Philippines	08/12/94	10/02/00(R)	10/05/00
126. Portugal	14/10/94	01/04/96(R)	26/12/96
127. Qatar		15/03/99(Ac)	13/06/99
128. Republic of Korea	14/10/94	17/08/99(R)	15/11/99
129. Republic of Moldova		10/03/99(Ac)	08/06/99
130. Romania		19/08/98(Ac)	17/11/98
131. Rwanda	22/06/95	22/10/98(R)	20/01/99
132. Saint Kitts and Nevis		30/06/97(Ac)	28/09/97
133. Saint Lucia		02/07/97(Ac)	30/09/97
134. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	15/10/94	16/03/98(R)	14/06/98

Country	Signature	Ratification	Entry into force
135. Samoa		21/08/98(Ac)	19/11/98
136. San Marino		23/07/99(Ac)	21/10/99
137. Sao Tome and Principe	04/10/95	08/07/98(R)	06/10/98
138. Saudi Arabia		25/06/97(Ac)	23/09/97
139. Senegal	14/10/94	26/07/95(R)	26/12/96
140. Seychelles	14/10/94	26/06/97(R)	24/09/97
141. Sierra Leone	11/11/94	25/09/97(R)	24/12/97
142. Singapore		26/04/99(Ac)	25/07/99
143. Slovenia		28/06/01(Ac)	26/09/01
144. Solomon Islands		16/04/99(Ac)	15/07/99
145. South Africa	09/01/95	30/09/97(R)	29/12/97
146. Spain	14/10/94	30/01/96(R)	26/12/96
147. Sri Lanka		09/12/98(Ac)	09/03/99
148. Sudan	15/10/94	24/11/95(R)	26/12/96
149. Suriname		01/06/00(Ac)	30/08/00
150. Swaziland	27/07/95	07/10/96(R)	05/01/97
151. Sweden	15/10/94	12/12/95(R)	26/12/96
152. Switzerland	14/10/94	19/01/96(R)	26/12/96
153. Syrian Arab Republic	15/10/94	10/06/97(R)	08/09/97
154. Tajikistan		16/07/97(Ac)	14/10/97
155. Thailand		07/03/01(Ac)	05/06/01
156. Togo	15/10/94	04/10/95(At)	26/12/96
157. Tonga		25/09/98(Ac)	24/12/98
158. Trinidad and Tobago		08/06/00(Ac)	06/09/00
159. Tunisia	14/10/94	11/10/95(R)	26/12/96
160. Turkey	14/10/94	31/03/98(R)	29/06/98
161. Turkmenistan	27/03/95	18/09/96(R)	26/12/96
162. Tuvalu		14/09/98(Ac)	13/12/98
163. Uganda	21/11/94	25/06/97(R)	23/09/97
164. United Arab Emirates		21/10/98(Ac)	19/01/99
165. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland*	14/10/94	18/10/96(R)	16/01/97
166. United Republic of Tanzania	14/10/94	19/06/97(R)	17/09/97
167. United States of America	14/10/94	17/11/00(R)	15/02/01
168. Uruguay		17/02/99(Ac)	18/05/99
169. Uzbekistan	07/12/94	31/10/95(R)	26/12/96
170. Vanuatu	28/09/95	10/08/99(R)	08/11/99
171. Venezuela		29/06/98(Ac)	27/09/98
172. Viet Nam		25/08/98(Ac)	23/11/98
173. Yemen		14/01/97(Ac)	14/04/97
174. Zambia	15/10/94	19/09/96(R)	26/12/96
175. Zimbabwe	15/10/94	23/09/97(R)	22/12/97
Regional Economic Integration Organization			
176. European Community	14/10/94	26/03/98(R)	24/06/98
TOTAL	**115**	**176**	

Notes:

* For the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Europe.

[b] "New Zealand declares that, consistent with the constitutional status of Tokelau and taking into account its commitment to the development of self-government through an act of self-determination under the Charter of the United Nations, this ratification shall not extend to Tokelau unless and until a Declaration to this effect is lodged by the Government of New Zealand with the Depositary on the basis of appropriate consultation with that territory."

[c] For the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the British Virgin Islands, St. Helena and Ascension Island. Subsequently, on 24 December 1996, the Government of the United Kingdom notified the Secretary-General that the Convention would apply to Montserrat.

Declarations:

ALGERIA

The People's Democratic Republic of Algeria does not consider itself bound by the provisions of article 28, paragraph 2, of the [said Convention], to the effect that any dispute must be submitted to the International Court of Justice.

The People's Democratic Republic of Algeria declares that for a dispute submitted to the International Court of Justice, the consent of both parties will be necessary in each case.

AUSTRIA

"The Republic of Austria declares in accordance with article 28 of the Convention that it accepts both of the means of dispute in paragraph 2 as compulsory in relation to any Party accepting an obligation concerning one or both of these means of dispute settlement."

GUATEMALA

"The Republic of Guatemala declares that, in respect of any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention, it recognizes arbitration in accordance with procedures adopted by the Conference of the Parties in an annex as soon as practicable as a means of dispute settlement, compulsory in relation to any Party accepting the same obligation. This declaration shall remain in force until three months after written notice of its revocation has been deposited with the Depositary."

KUWAIT

With respect to the State of Kuwait, any additional regional implementation annex or any amendment to any regional implementation annex shall enter into force only upon the deposit of its instrument of ratification or accession with respect thereto.

NETHERLANDS

"The Kingdom of the Netherlands declares, in accordance with paragraph 2 of article 28 of [the said Convention] that it accepts both means of dispute settlement referred to in that paragraph as compulsory in relation to any party accepting one or both of these means of dispute settlement."

NEW ZEALAND

"Any additional regional implementation annex or any amendment to any regional implementation annex to the Convention shall enter into force for new Zealand only upon the Government of New Zealand's deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with respect thereto."

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Understandings:

"(1) Foreign assistance.-- The United States understands that, as a "developed country," pursuant to Article 6 of the Convention and its Annexes, it is not obligated to satisfy specific funding requirements or other specific requirements regarding the provision of any resource, including technology, to any "affected country," as defined in Article 1 of the Convention. The United States understands that ratification of the Convention does not alter its domestic legal processes to determine foreign assistance funding or programs.

"(2) Financial resources and mechanism.-- The United States understands that neither Article 20 nor Article 21 of the Convention impose obligations to provide specific levels of funding for the Global Environmental Facility, or the Global Mechanism, to carry out the objectives of the Convention, or for any other purpose.

"(3) United States land management.-- The United States understands that it is a "developed country party" as defined in Article 1 of the Convention, and that it is not required to prepare a national action program pursuant to Part III, Section 1, of the Convention. The United States also understands that no changes to its existing land management practices and programs will be required to meet its obligations under Articles 4 or 5 of the Convention.

"(4) Legal process for amending the Convention.-- In accordance with Article 34 (4), any additional regional implementation annex to the Convention or any amendment to any regional implementation annex to the Convention shall enter into force for the United States only upon the deposit of a corresponding instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

"(5) Dispute settlement.-- The United States declines to accept as compulsory either of the dispute settlement means set out in Article 28(2), and understands that it will not be bound by the outcome, findings, conclusions or recommendations of a conciliation process initiated under Article 28 (6). For any dispute arising from this Convention, the United States does not recognize or accept the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice."

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